

Los Gatos Youth Commission Announces Mini-Grant Funding

The Los Gatos Youth Commission is soliciting project ideas to address issues affecting youth in Los Gatos. A total of \$1,000 is available to fund grants. A maximum of \$200 per grant may be awarded for a selected project. Below are suggested areas of focus with examples of programs that would fit under that project type:

- Promote Healthy Choices (e.g. create a health-awareness day or activity for teens in Los Gatos)
- Increase Recreational Opportunities (e.g. create a community fun day for kids and parents)
- Improve Relations Between Youth and Businesses (e.g. recognize youth friendly businesses)
- Engage, Educate or Inform Youth (e.g. establish a mentoring program between a local middle and high school)
- Improve Youth-Adult Interaction (e.g. facilitate an activity between adults and kids or create an activity between police and youth)
- Explore Your Creative Interests (e.g. film your own movie or create your own fashion line)

HOW TO APPLY—To apply for a mini-grant, an individual or group must complete an application and present the proposal in person to the Los Gatos Youth Commission at one of its scheduled meetings. ***(Click on the link to download an application)***

Selected projects will receive authorization for a certain amount of funding. Selected projects must have a budget and be able to fund itself initially. Reimbursement of expenses will be made immediately following completion of the project and presentation of the outcome to the Youth Commission at one of its scheduled meetings.

PROJECT GUIDELINES—The following guidelines should be considered when applying for a mini-grant:

- The proposed project should integrate one or more of the 41 Project Cornerstone's developmental assets. (For a list of these assets, log onto: <http://www.search-institute.org/assets/>)
- All students living in the town of Los Gatos grades 7-12 are eligible to apply for a grant.
- Projects must be created, managed, and presented to the Youth Commission by student applicants.
- The entire project must be non-profit and must benefit Los Gatos youth.
- Each applicant must provide a list of expenses and a general time-line for the project. Students must also arrange a time to present their project to the commission for review.
- Funds may be used to purchase supplies or provide transportation, but only as part of a larger youth-oriented project. Supplies and trips should be just one component of a well-planned project.
- Incorporating matching funds or community resources is encouraged. For example, PTA's/PTO's may raise matching funds. We also ask students to appeal to other community organizations that may donate needed equipment or services.
- Interdisciplinary, team-teaching projects and those which involve different age groups are encouraged.